

based communications;

inserting the deployment physical medium into the system;

detecting the presence of the deployment physical medium in the system;

determining if the deployment physical medium is compatible with the hardware resources of the system;

if the deployment physical medium is compatible with the hardware resources of the system, providing configuration data and software into data storage resources of the system based on the configuration data and software included on the deployment physical medium;

wherein the configuration data and software included on the deployment physical medium are deployed in the system in a headless manner without a monitor being coupled to the system;

wherein, after deployment of the configuration data and software in the system, the system is operable such that the processor is adapted to selectively control voice communications from the one or more telephony devices over the first TDM bus and packet-based communications over the first packet bus, wherein voice communications that stay in a circuit-switched form in the system occur over one or more of the TDM buses and the wide area communication network, and wherein packet-based communications are selectively coupled to the wide area communication network via the TDM buses.

2 3. The method of claim 2, wherein, after detecting the presence of the deployment physical medium in the system, audible and/or and visual feedback is provided by the system to indicate that the deployment physical medium has been detected.

3 4. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of determining if the deployment physical medium is compatible with the hardware resources of the system comprises determining model information of the system and comparing the model information of the system with information on the deployment physical medium.

4 5. The method of claim 2, wherein audible and/or visual feedback is provided by the system if it is determined that the deployment physical medium is not compatible with the hardware resources of the system.

5 6. The method of claim 2, after the step of detecting the presence of the deployment physical medium in the system, the system waits until a user command is detected to proceed.

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⁶ 7. The method of claim ⁵ 6, wherein the user command comprises depressing a physical switch on the system.

⁷ 8. The method of claim ¹ 2, wherein the step of providing configuration data and software onto data storage resources of the system based on the configuration data and software included on the deployment physical medium is accompanied by audible and/or visual feedback.

⁸ 9. The method of claim ¹ 2, wherein the deployment physical medium comprises a CDROM and the data storage resources of the system comprise a disk drive.

⁹ 10. The method of claim ¹ 2, wherein the system is deployed as part of installing a system at a customer location or as part of a test associated with manufacture of the system.

¹⁰ 11. The method of claim ¹ 2 wherein, after deployment of the configuration data and software in the system, the system is rebooted, wherein thereafter the system is operable such that the processor is adapted to selectively control voice communications from the one or more telephony devices over the first TDM bus and packet-based communications over the first packet bus, wherein voice communications that stay in a circuit-switched form in the system occur over one or more of the TDM buses and the wide area communication network, and wherein packet-based communications are selectively coupled to the wide area communication network via the TDM buses.

¹¹ 12. A headless method of deploying a communication system, wherein the system includes hardware/software resources to provide voice and data communications to a plurality of users, wherein configuration data and software on a deployment physical medium are deployed in the system, the method comprising the steps of:

providing the deployment physical medium, wherein the deployment physical medium includes configuration data and software for operating the system to provide voice and data communications;

inserting the deployment physical medium into the system;

detecting the presence of the deployment physical medium in the system;

determining if the deployment physical medium is compatible with the hardware/software resources of the system; and

if the deployment physical medium is compatible with the hardware/software resources of the system, providing configuration data and software into data storage resources of the system

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based on the configuration data and software included on the deployment physical medium;

wherein the configuration data and software included on the deployment physical medium are deployed in the system in a headless manner without a monitor being coupled to the system;

wherein, after deployment of the configuration data and software in the system, the system is operable to provide voice and data communications.

¹²13. The method of claim ¹¹12, wherein, after detecting the presence of the deployment physical medium in the system, audible and/or and visual feedback is provided by the system to indicate that the deployment physical medium has been detected.

¹³14. The method of claim ¹¹12, wherein the step of determining if the deployment physical medium is compatible with the hardware/software resources of the system comprises determining model information of the system and comparing the model information of the system with information on the deployment physical medium.

¹⁴15. The method of claim ¹¹12, wherein audible and/or visual feedback is provided by the system if it is determined that the deployment physical medium is not compatible with the hardware/software resources of the system.

¹⁵16. The method of claim ¹¹12, after the step of detecting the presence of the deployment physical medium in the system, the system waits until a user command is detected to proceed.

¹⁶17. The method of claim ¹⁵16, wherein the user command comprises depressing a physical switch on the system.

¹⁷18. The method of claim ¹¹12, wherein the step of providing configuration data and software onto data storage resources of the system based on the configuration data and software included on the deployment physical medium is accompanied by audible and/or visual feedback.

¹⁸19. The method of claim ¹¹12, wherein the deployment physical medium comprises a CDROM and the data storage resources of the system comprise a disk drive.

¹⁹20. The method of claim ¹¹12, wherein the system is deployed as part of installing a system at a customer location or as part of a test associated with manufacture of the system.

²⁰21. The method of claim ¹¹12, wherein the system includes an interface for coupling to a wide area communication network comprising a plurality of network resources, at least a first packet bus for coupling to one or more packet-based devices and adapted for transferring

packetized data to and from the system, at least a first time division multiplex (TDM) bus coupled to one or more telephony devices and adapted to be selectively coupled to the first packet bus and the wide area communication network, and a processor,

61 wherein, after deployment of the configuration data and software in the system, the system is operable such that the processor is adapted to selectively control voice communications from the one or more telephony devices over the first TDM bus and packet-based communications over the first packet bus, wherein voice communications that stay in a circuit-switched form in the system occur over one or more of the TDM buses and the wide area communication network, and wherein packet-based communications are selectively coupled to the wide area communication network via the TDM buses.

CLAIMS SHOWING AMENDMENTS MADE HEREIN

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2. A headless method of deploying a communication system, wherein the system has a plurality of hardware resources including an interface for coupling to a wide area communication network comprising a plurality of network resources, at least a first packet bus for coupling to one or more packet-based devices and adapted for transferring packetized data to and from the system, at least a first time division multiplex (TDM) bus coupled to one or more telephony devices and adapted to be selectively coupled to the first packet bus and the wide area communication network, and a processor,

method comprising the steps of:

providing a deployment physical medium, wherein the deployment physical medium includes configuration data and software for operating the system to provide voice and packet-based communications;

inserting the deployment physical medium into the system;

detecting the presence of the deployment physical medium in the system;

determining if the deployment physical medium is compatible with the hardware resources of the system;

if the deployment physical medium is compatible with the hardware resources of the system, providing configuration data and software into data storage resources of the system based on the configuration data and software included on the deployment physical medium;

wherein the configuration data and software included on the deployment physical medium are deployed in the system in a headless manner without a monitor being coupled to the system;

wherein, after deployment of the configuration data and software in the system, the system is operable such that the processor is adapted to selectively control voice communications from the one or more telephony devices over the first TDM bus and packet-based communications over the first packet bus, wherein voice communications that stay in a circuit-switched form in the system occur over one or more of the TDM buses and the wide area communication network, and wherein packet-based communications are selectively coupled to the wide area communication network via the TDM buses.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein, after detecting the presence of the deployment physical medium in the system, audible and/or and visual feedback is provided by the system to indicate that the deployment physical medium has been detected.

4. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of determining if the deployment physical medium is compatible with the hardware resources of the system comprises determining model information of the system and comparing the model information of the system with information on the deployment physical medium.

5. The method of claim 2, wherein audible and/or visual feedback is provided by the system if it is determined that the deployment physical medium is not compatible with the hardware resources of the system.

6. The method of claim 2, after the step of detecting the presence of the deployment physical medium in the system, the system waits until a user command is detected to proceed.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the user command comprises depressing a physical switch on the system.

8. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of providing configuration data and software onto data storage resources of the system based on the configuration data and software included on the deployment physical medium is accompanied by audible and/or visual feedback.

9. The method of claim 2, wherein the deployment physical medium comprises a CDROM and the data storage resources of the system comprise a disk drive.

10. The method of claim 2, wherein the system is deployed as part of installing a system at a customer location or as part of a test associated with manufacture of the system.

11. The method of claim 2 wherein, after deployment of the configuration data and software in the system, the system is rebooted, wherein thereafter the system is operable such that the processor is adapted to selectively control voice communications from the one or more telephony devices over the first TDM bus and packet-based communications over the first packet bus, wherein voice communications that stay in a circuit-switched form in the system occur over one or more of the TDM buses and the wide area communication network, and wherein packet-based communications are selectively coupled to the wide area communication network via the TDM buses.

12. A headless method of deploying a communication system, wherein the system

includes hardware/software resources to provide voice and data communications to a plurality of users, wherein configuration data and software on a deployment physical medium are deployed in the system, the method comprising the steps of:

providing the deployment physical medium, wherein the deployment physical medium includes configuration data and software for operating the system to provide voice and data communications;

inserting the deployment physical medium into the system;

detecting the presence of the deployment physical medium in the system;

determining if the deployment physical medium is compatible with the hardware/software resources of the system; and

if the deployment physical medium is compatible with the hardware/software resources of the system, providing configuration data and software into data storage resources of the system based on the configuration data and software included on the deployment physical medium;

wherein the configuration data and software included on the deployment physical medium are deployed in the system in a headless manner without a monitor being coupled to the system;

wherein, after deployment of the configuration data and software in the system, the system is operable to provide voice and data communications.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein, after detecting the presence of the deployment physical medium in the system, audible and/or and visual feedback is provided by the system to indicate that the deployment physical medium has been detected.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein the step of determining if the deployment physical medium is compatible with the hardware/software resources of the system comprises determining model information of the system and comparing the model information of the system with information on the deployment physical medium.

15. The method of claim 12, wherein audible and/or visual feedback is provided by the system if it is determined that the deployment physical medium is not compatible with the hardware/software resources of the system.

16. The method of claim 12, after the step of detecting the presence of the deployment physical medium in the system, the system waits until a user command is detected to proceed.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the user command comprises depressing a physical switch on the system.

18. The method of claim 12, wherein the step of providing configuration data and software onto data storage resources of the system based on the configuration data and software included on the deployment physical medium is accompanied by audible and/or visual feedback.

19. The method of claim 12, wherein the deployment physical medium comprises a CDROM and the data storage resources of the system comprise a disk drive.

20. The method of claim 12, wherein the system is deployed as part of installing a system at a customer location or as part of a test associated with manufacture of the system.

21. The method of claim 12, wherein the system includes an interface for coupling to a wide area communication network comprising a plurality of network resources, at least a first packet bus for coupling to one or more packet-based devices and adapted for transferring packetized data to and from the system, at least a first time division multiplex (TDM) bus coupled to one or more telephony devices and adapted to be selectively coupled to the first packet bus and the wide area communication network, and a processor,

wherein, after deployment of the configuration data and software in the system, the system is operable such that the processor is adapted to selectively control voice communications from the one or more telephony devices over the first TDM bus and packet-based communications over the first packet bus, wherein voice communications that stay in a circuit-switched form in the system occur over one or more of the TDM buses and the wide area communication network, and wherein packet-based communications are selectively coupled to the wide area communication network via the TDM buses.

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